

Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

January 24, 2011

The Honorable Isiah Leggett County Executive Executive Office Building 101 Monroe Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Leggett:

Next week, the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) will begin a \$3.6 million safety and resurfacing project on a more than 3.5 mile section of MD 97 (Georgia Avenue) between MD 28 (Norbeck Road) and Glenallan Avenue between Wheaton and Aspen Hill. Weather permitting, construction should be complete this fall.

The project includes patching all lanes of Georgia Avenue between Norbeck Road and Glenallan Avenue Other work includes grinding and resurfacing all lanes of Georgia Avenue between MD 185 (Connecticut Avenue) and Glenallan Avenue, repairing existing storm water inlets, landscaping, upgrading signals to audible/countdown pedestrian signals (APS/CPS), and installing new pavement markings.

The work is necessary to improve the ride for drivers on MD 97 through Wheaton and Aspen Hill as well as the pedestrians wishing to access local businesses, churches, and schools. The existing pavement is showing signs of deterioration in the form of ruts and cracks. This section of MD 97 carries an average of over 114,000 vehicles daily.

During construction, motorists can expect single and double lane closures along both directions of Georgia Avenue Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and overnight between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Double lane closures can be expected overnight, seven days a week, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., with additional single lane closures Saturday and Sunday between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m.

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SHA will provide variable message signs, drums, and arrow boards to guide motorists through the work zone.

If you have any additional questions or comments, please feel free to contact our District Community Liaison, Kim Frum, at 301-513-7405.

Sincerely,

Brian W. Young District Engineer